THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5848. *Friday, Sept.* 18, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

The Rivals was performed to a very good house yesterday evening it being the first representation of this attractive Comedy this season. The powerful cast of which it had so recently the advantage being resumed, we have little to remark on the merits of the representation last night. While such performers as W. Farren, Harley, Madame Vestris, and Mrs. Nisbett, appear in the production of Sheridan, little else is to be wished for in the shape of attraction. *The Sleeping Beauty* concluded the entertainments. There was some talk of Sheridan's excellent satirical Farce, *The Critic*, being made available last season, but circumstances having prevented its revival then, we trust there will be nothing to prevent its production during the present season.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

The Lady of Lyons was played for the last time, last night, and was received by a very full house with the usual testimonials of unequivocal approbation. There was an apology made for Mr. Rees, who was unable to appear, and *My Wife's Mother*, and *Tom Noddy's Secret*, were substituted for the Comedy of *Paul Pry.*

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

THE pieces represented here yesterday evening were for the Benefit of Mr. Maynard. They consisted of *The Ancestress, Black Eyed Susan, My Man Tom,* and *The Area Sylph.*

Cambridge Theatricals.—From *The Cambridge Advertiser* of the 16th.—"The present season opened on Monday night with a very powerful and effective *corps dramatique.* The first piece was the Opera of *Guy Mannering*, the chief parts in which were sustained by Mrs. and Mr. Alban Croft, and Mr. Shrivall. The part of *Julia Mannering*, by Mrs. Croft, scarcely afforded sufficient scope for the display of the very eminent musical powers which this lady evidently possesses. The great attraction of her vocal and dramatic talents is much enhanced by a most prepossessing personal appearance. The sprightly *espieglerie* of *Julia's* character was very admirably represented in Mrs. Croft's performance. *Henry Bertram*, (Mr. Croft,) was played with much effect. The various songs he introduced were received with expressions of well deserved applause. Mr. Shrivall, as *Guy Mannering*, had little or nothing to do, but that little was done well. In the Interlude of "*No,*" which followed, this gentleman's vocal talents were very eminently displayed. Of the other characters in the first piece, we can mention as meriting much encomium, the *Meg Merrilies* of Miss Ellis. *Baillie Mucklethrift*, (Mr. Munyard,) and, as far as the faults of the dramatist would admit, the

E. & J. Thomas, Printers, 6, Exeter Street, Strand.

Dominie Sampson of Mr. Davidge. *Dandie Dinmont*, (Mr. Bedell,) was, we thought, rather a misconception on the part of the actor. The honest farmer had to much of the drunken ruffian about him. In the part of *Maria*, in the musical Interlude of "*No*," Mrs. Croft delighted the audience as much by the skill with which she developed the *naiveté* of the character as by the beauty and melody of her voice. Mr. George Smith sustained the character of the jealous *Sir George Touchwood*, in a very admirable manner, and the *Frederick* of Mr. Shrivell, and the *Lady Doubtful* of Mrs. Munyard, were much admired *The Married Rake* concluded the evening, in which Mr. S. Davis's *Flighty*, and Miss Ellis as *Mrs. Trictrac*, were highly deserving of admiration."

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection the full length figure of the lunatic Oxford; also splendid figures of Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert in his military costume, the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

Tuesday, pop into the Gallery of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, to view M. G. Peck's Novel and Magnificent Model of Hobart Town, the Capital of Van Dieman's Land. It is constructed upon a scale of 20 feet to an inch, and includes every building in this romantic and interesting town. Also in this Exhibition will be seen Two Moving Panoramas, consisting of Sydney the capital of New South Wales, and Scenery in the Environs of Hobart Town.

Wednesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful exhibition. *The Industrious Fleas*. They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. Afterwards visited the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid only sixpence, and received an article in return.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Must call upon Messrs. COCKS & Co. Music Sellers to the Queen, No. 20, Princes Street, Hanover Square, to procure Hamilton's Pianoforte Tutor, which is the cheapest best book for children from four years of age, and upwards, with 31 airs, &c, fingered by Czerny, only paid 4s. for both, and Hamilton's Dictionary of 2000 musical terms, Italian, German, and French, with their significations in English, 11th edition, cost but 1s.—Recommended by all the first-rate professors and teachers of music.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Thursday, drop into *The Florentine Anatomical Museum*, Margaret Street, Regent Street, to admire the splendid Anatomical Figures of Venus and Adonis, modelled from nature, and as large as life.

Afterwards called at Emmet's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker, by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his improved Needle Threader to enable Ladies whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

There is scarcely an inhabitant of this metropolis who has not heard of "Grimstone's Eye Snuff," and therefore as far as attempting to add to its popularity, it would only be like "gilding refined gold," but I must mention, that since I have called at 39, Broad Street, Bloomsbury, and purchased a 1s. 3d. and 2s. 4d. canister of this herbacious and truly delightful Snuff, it has cured my dimness of sight and head-ache, although all the faculty had failed to effect a cure.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspeare's Comedy (with Music,) called The

Merry Wives of Windsor

Sir John Falstaff, Mr BARTLEY, Justice Shallow, Mr F. MATTHEWS
Abraham Slender, . Mr C. MATHEWS, Mr Ford, . Mr COOPER,
Mr Page... Mr DIDDEAR, Fenton, . Mr BINGE,
Dr Caius, . Mr J. BLAND, Sir Hugh Evans, . Mr MEADOWS;
Host of the "Garter," . . Mr GRANBY, Pistol, . Mr W. H. PAYNE,
Nym..... Mr C J SMITH, Bardolph..... Mr AYLIFFE
Mrs Ford, . Mrs NISBETT, Mrs Page, . Madame VESTRIS,
Anne Page, . Miss RAINFORTH, Mrs Quickly, . Mrs C. JONES

Overture .. 'Le Philtre.' .... Auber

To conclude with, (47th time,) an Original Grand Comic. Romantic, Operatic Melo-dramatic, Fairy Extravaganza in 3 parts, entitled The

SLEEPING BEAUTY

IN THE WOOD.

Scenery by the Messrs. Grieve. Music, by Mr J. H. Tully

Part First —Period. 1583

THE BOUDOIR OF THE FAIRY BANEFUL,

Nine Thousand Miles North of the Kingdom of Noland.

The Fairy Baneful, Mrs TAYLEURE,

Newspaper Imp...(*not "Printer's Devil,*).... Master FLIGHT,

BANQUET HALL,

In the CASTLE of the KING of NOLAND

Thomas, surnamed "Noddy," (*King of Noland*) Mr J. BLAND;

Queen Serena, (*his Consort*) Mrs EMDEN,

Nurse. . Mrs SMITH, Gentleman Usher. . Mr RIDGWAY,

Baron Factotum, (*Grand-Lord-High-Everything*) Mr HARLEY,

FARIES INVITED TO THE BANQUET.

The Fairy Antidota, Miss LEE The Fairy Eleganina, Miss KENDALL

Part Second. - Period. 1601.

VESTIBULE IN THE ROYAL CASTLE.

The Lady Aurora Abigail (*1st of the Bedchamber*) Miss RAINFORTH

APARTMENT OF THE PRINCESS.

The Princess Is-a-belle, (*aged 18, all but an hour*) Mad. VESTRIS,

Lobby & Lumber Room at the Top of the Castle.

THE STATE BED CHAMBER.

Sylphides, - by Miss Fairbrother, Miss Ryals Mrs W H. Payne, and Miss Miller.

Part Third.—Period 1701.

MAGIC FOREST.

Larry O'Clog,) *Wood Cutters* (Mr BROUGHAM,
Colin Clump,) (Mr KERRIDGE,

Prince Perfect, Mr J. VINING,

Castle Gates. Moat & Drawbridge. Palace Yard

THE STATE BED CHAMBER, (exactly as before)

Personages "In Statu Quo"——Though a Century Older.

Ex-King of Noland, (aged 160) Mr J BLAND,

Ex-Queen of ditto.....(aged 150).....Mrs EMDEN,

Lord Factotum, (aged 140) Mr HARLEY,

Lady Aurora. Abigail.....(aged 120).....Miss RAINFORTH,

The Princess Is-a-belle [still] (aged 118) Mad. VESTRIS,

Illuminated Palace and Gardens.

The Cachoucha Pas de Caractere, by Mr GILBERT & Miss BALLIN

Departure of the Seven Fairies in a Patent "SAFETY FLY."

To-morrow, a New Play, (in Five Acts) written by S. KNOWLES, called The Bride of Messina, and The Sleeping Beauty

Theatre Royal, Hay-market.

This Evening, Holcroft's Comedy of The

Road to Ruin.

Old Dornton..(2nd time,)..Mr PHELPS,
Mr Sulky, MrWALDRON, MrMilford, Mr HOWE,
Harry Dornton, Mr WALLACK,
Mr Silky .....Mr STRICKLAND,
Goldfinch....Mr WRENCH,
Mr Smith..Mr Worrell. Hosier....Mr Gough,
Jacob..Mr OXBERRY,
Sheriff's Officer, Mr Thompson, Marker, MrGreen,
Furrier....Mr Santer, Hatter ....Mr Bishop,
Footman..Mr Clark, Servant..MrWitten,
Widow Warren ..... Mrs GLOVER,
Sophia..(2nd time,).. Mrs STIRLING,
Mrs Ledger..MrsGALLOT, Milliner..MissGrove,
Jenny..Mrs F. MATTHEWS.

After which, (first time here) the Romantic Drama of

The BRIGAND.

Prince Bianchi, Mr WALDRON,
Albert, Mr HOWE, Theodore, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Alessandro Massaroni, Mr WALLACK,
Nicolo, Mr T F. MATHEWS, Fabio, Mr GOUGH
Rubaldo, Mr GALLOT,
Count Carrafa.....Mr WORRELL,
Cardinal Secretary, Mr Bishop, Officer, Mr Green,
Yager to the Prince, Mr Clark,
Spoletto..Mr Caulfield, Carlotti..Mr Ashton,
Ruffino, Mr Howson,
Ottavia .... Mrs E. YARNOLD,
Maria Grazie, Miss CHARLES,

To conclude with, the Petite Comedy, called

"My Little Adopted."

Major Seymore, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Frederick Summers .....Mr WALTER LACY,
John Dibbs, Mr OXBERRY,
Laurette Seymore .... Mrs STIRLING,
Rose Mayburn Miss P. HORTON,
In which she will sing, '**Comin' thro' the Rye.**'
Becky.....Mrs F. MATTHEWS,
Susan, Miss GALLOT.

To-morrow, To Marry or Not to Marry, A Drama, and Family Jars.

Printed and Published, every Morning, by E. & J THOMAS 6, Exeter Street, Strand.—All Letters to be post paid—Printing in General.